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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

FOR THE YEAR 1868

X

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APPENDIX

TO THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

IN THE

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

MONTH OF 1867.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

For 1866.

3130c

DISTRICT OF SONTHAL PERGUNNAHS.

	Square Miles.		*Souls.*
AREA	5,375	POPULATION	5,22,000

1		2		3		4		5	
	CRIMES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
		Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
1	Offences against the State	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2	Offences relating to the Army	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Offences against public tranquillity	30	106	37⅔	124⅔	.....	.....	7⅔	18⅔
4	Offences by, or relating to, public servants	57	145	36⅔	56	20⅓	89	.....	.....
5	Contempt of the lawful authority of public servants	172	389	128⅔	240⅔	43⅓	148⅓	.....	...
6	False evidence and offences against public justice...	94	126	113	142	.....	.....	19	16
7	Offences relating to coin and Government stamps, &c.	7	7	6⅓	8	⅔	.....	.....	1
8	Offences relating to weights and measures ...	28	33	18	35⅓	10	... ..	.....	2⅓
9	Offences against the public health, safety, convenience, decency, and morals	25	56	43⅓	69⅓	.....	.....	18⅓	13⅓
10	Offences relating to religion	1	2	⅔	1	⅓	1	.....	.....
11	Offences affecting the human body	693	1061	894⅔	1194	.....	.....	201⅔	133
12	Offences against property	2376	3833	1891⅓	2661⅓	484⅔	1171⅔	.....	.....
13	Offences relating to documents and to trade or property marks	1	3	2	3⅔	.....	.....	1	⅔
14	Criminal breach of contract of service ...	4	4	1	5	3	.....	.....	1
15	Offences relating to marriage	6	8	16⅓	22⅔	.....	.....	10⅓	14⅔
16	Defamation	69	113	54	75	15	38	.....	.....
17	Criminal intimidation, insult, or annoyance	59	84	77⅓	102	.....	.....	18⅓	18
18	Miscellaneous offences	223	329	229⅔	339⅔	.....	.....	6⅔	10⅔
	Total	3845	6299	3559⅓	5080⅓	577⅔	1448	283	229⅓

The enormous increase in crimes during the year is chiefly attributable to the distress and scarcity of the last year.

1st Class.—Offences against the State—blank.

2nd Class.—Offences relating to the Army—blank.

3RD CLASS.—*Offences against Public Tranquillity.*

1	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Unlawful assembly	2	18	2½	17⅝	...	18	13	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	.	...	1	...	...	...	...
2 Rioting, &c.	3	4	1⅝	4⅝	...	4	4	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
3 Affray	25	89	33⅛	102⅛	...	89	89	...	...	...	50	32	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30	106	37⅝	124⅝	...	106	106	...	...	...	59	38	...	...	. .	3	6	...	...	...	...

Convictions satisfactory, the arrests specially so.

4TH CLASS.—*Offences by, or relating to, Public Servants.*

1	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Offences by public servants ...	53	141	34½	51	5	141	146	...	...	...	16	81	...	...	...	4	37	...	8	...	...	...
2 Offences relating to public servants	4	4	2½	5	...	4	4	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	57	145	36½	56	5	145	150	...	...	...	17	82	...	...	...	5	38	...	8	...	...	...

The proportion of conviction to acquittal is fair.

5TH CLASS.—*Contempt of the lawful authority of Public Servants.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Contempt of lawful authority ...	172	389	128⅓	240⅔	...	375	375	...	...	...	144	168	...	...	...	19	44	...	...	...	...	...

The arrests and the results of trial are very good.

6TH CLASS.—*False Evidence and Offences against Public Justice.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 False evidence, or subornation, &c. of the same	3	7	3	4⅓	1	7	8	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...
2 Offences against public justice ...	91	119	110	137⅓	2	110	112	...	...	1	71	16	...	...	1	15	8	..	...	...	...	...
Total ...	94	126	113	142	3	117	120	...	...	6	71	16	...	...	1	15	9	...	2	...	...	...

Convictions satisfactory.

7TH CLASS.—*Offences relating to Coin and Government Stamps.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Offences relating to coin ...	7	7	6½	8	1	7	8	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...

The proportion of convictions to acquittals is good.

8TH CLASS.—*Offences relating to Weights and Measures.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Offences relating to weights and measures	28	33	18	35½	...	33	33	...	...	...	22	6	..	...	...	2	3	..	..	...	...	...

Convictions very satisfactory.

9TH CLASS.—*Offences affecting Public Health, Safety, &c.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Offences affecting public health...	8	13	12	26	...	13	13	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
2 Offences affecting public safety ...	11	13	21	23½	...	13	13	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	...
3 Offences affecting public convenience	10	28	8½	15½	...	28	28	...	...	...	11	10	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...
4 Offences affecting public decency or morals	1	2	2	4	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	25	56	43½	69½	...	56	56	...	...	...	16	13	...	...	...	11	16	...	...	...	..	...

10TH CLASS.—*Offences relating to Religion.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Offences relating to religion ...	1	2	½	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

11TH CLASS.—*Offences affecting the Human Body.*

1	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Murder	14	18	6½	15	2	82	84	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	5	7	...	...	18	1	...	..
2 Attempt to commit murder ...	...	...	⅓	⅓	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	.	...	...	...
3 Culpable homicide...	9	18	4½	11½	7	15	22	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	11	...	...	...
4 Attempt at ditto	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...
5 Abetment of suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Attempt at ditto	3	3	2⅔	2⅔	...	3	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Rape	5	7	8	11	1	7	8	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	2	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
8 Unnatural offences	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
9 Causing miscarriage, attended with aggravating circumstances	...	...	⅓	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
10 Ditto, other cases...	2	2	1⅓	2	...	2	2	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
11 Injury to unborn children ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Exposure of infants	3	3	½	¼	...	3	3	..	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	..	..	...	...
13 Concealment of birth by secret disposal of dead body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Kidnapping or forcible abduction, with aggravating circumstances	...	...	1⅓	1⅓	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 Ditto, other cases	5	8	2	3	...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	...
16 Slavery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...
17 Buying or selling a minor for the purpose of prostitution... ...	...	...	⅓	1	3	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Forced labor	...	...	⅓	⅓	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Hurt, with aggravating circumstances	4	10	4⅓	14	1	10	11	..	..	9	...	...	..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Ditto, other cases	55	82	21	35⅓	5	67	72	...	...	...	21	12	...	...	...	9	18	...	12	...	...	...
21 Criminal force or assault... ...	568	857	808⅓	1081⅔	28	586	609	...	...	...	119	110	...	...	...	200	161	...	19	...	...	...
22 Wrongful confinement	16	31	13⅔	34	9	29	38	...	...	...	5	2	..	...	.	12	17	...	2	...	...	..
23 Wrongful restraint	13	26	19⅓	29⅓	3	21	24	...	...	...	2	10	..	..	...	3	8	...	1	...	..	.
Total ...	698	1061	894⅔	1194	A 54	783	837	...	...	28	150	134	...	...	8	238	216	...	61	1	.	...

NOTE *A*.—Fifty-three persons were shown as pending at close of 1865, and has been added from the pending of Class 12, as such persons were convicted under Class 11, Item No. 23, Section 341.

The proportion of convictions to acquittals is generally bad. The result of trial under heading 21 is what may be expected in this country, where people much resort to false charges.

Of the cases of Table 11 the following deserve notice:—

QUEEN *versus* CHOYTON SONTHAL

In this case the prisoner Choyton Sonthal was charged with the murder of an old woman under the following circumstances:—

Prisoner had been for some time suffering from frequent epileptic fits, and thought himself under the evil spell of some witch. The deceased, who lived near the prisoner, went one evening to his house for fire, and, while taking up some from his choola, the prisoner struck her down with the butt-end of an adze, causing her immediate death. No previous enmity existed between prisoner and deceased. Prisoner confessed to the murder, which was also clearly proved against him. The deed must have been committed in the frenzy of the moment; no premeditation was apparent; and although prisoner was a man of weak intellect, he was in no way insane. He was sentenced to transportation for life.

QUEEN *versus* DANDOO SONTHAL.

The facts of this case may be stated very briefly and as follows:—

A number of Sonthals, among whom were the prisoner and deceased, were collected together celebrating one of their festivals, when, as is usual among Sonthals, a good deal of liquor had been indulged in. The young girls of the village were dancing, and near them the deceased and prisoner were joking and larking with one another. The deceased having an egg in his hand smashed it over prisoner's face; and while the latter was wiping his face with his dhootee, the deceased snatched it off prisoner's person, leaving him naked before all the company there assembled, on which prisoner gave deceased a slap on the face, and both being more or less intoxicated fell down near a fence; the prisoner snatched up a stake from such fence, and with it struck deceased three blows on the head, causing his almost immedate death. Prisoner admitted his guilt, which was also clearly proved; and the Deputy Commissioner, taking into consideration the gross provocation the prisoner had received, sentenced him to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

QUEEN *versus* BASSOO, LODHIN, SEETUL, MANKA, SONTHALS, AND RYMUT, SONTHALINE.

In this case the prisoners Bassoo, Lodhin, Seetul, Manka, Sonthals, and Rymut, Sonthaline, were charged with the culpable homicide not amounting to murder of one Parbutty, Sonthaline, on the pretence that she was a witch. On or about the 22nd of October 1865, Seedho, a boy about two years of age, brother of the prisoners Lodhin and Seetul, died somewhat suddenly. Lodhin, believing that the child had been killed by witchcraft, charged his mother and wife with being witches, and destroying the child; the former managed to exonerate herself, but the wife, on being beaten, to save herself probably, admitted that she was a witch, and had with four other witches, naming them, bewitched the child causing its death. A punchyet assembled on the 24th idem at the instigation of the prisoner Lodhin and his father Bhag Roy. The accused women were summoned to attend the meeting, and did so, but the punchyet not satisfied with the woman Rymut's statement, were about breaking up the meeting, when the four male prisoners, assisted by Kalu Dass and Bhadoo, Sonthals, began hustling the four women, calling on them to dig up and remove the *bhoots* or evil spirits which Rymut had said had been concealed by them in Bhag Roy's house. Rymut commenced digging up the floor of the house, and after a while dug up a small white stone, which she said was a *bhoot*, and fastened same in the cloth of Parbutty, saying she was high priestess or gooroo of the party. Parbutty was now called upon to remove the remaining *bhoots*, and because she was unable to find any, she was severely beaten by the four male prisoners, assisted by Rymut; her cloth was torn off her person, and nude as she was, she was

hustled about and made to dig for the *bhoots*, severely beaten with *panias* or small sticks all the while by the prisoners; also Kalu Dass and Bhadoo (the two latter took a very prominent part in the beating, and, fearing the consequences, absconded, and have not been since apprehended, although a reward of Rs. 200 was offered for their arrest) till the poor woman was quite exhausted and died the same night from the effects of the beating and ill-treatment she had received. The charge was fully proved against all the prisoners; and although there was no previous ill-will between the prisoners and deceased, and no premeditated intention to cause her death, the prisoners being fully in the belief that deceased was a witch, and could, if she would, have removed the evil spirits from Bhag Roy's house, and thought to force her into doing so by chastising her, there was no room to doubt but that deceased died from the effects of the ill-treatment she had received at their hands. The prisoners Bassoo and Lodhin, as taking the most prominent part in the beating of deceased, were sentenced to ten years' transportation, and the remaining prisoners Seetul, Manka, and Rymut to five years' rigorous imprisonment, which sentence was afterwards confirmed on appeal before the Commissioner, Southal Pergunnahs.

QUEEN *versus* BULLED SONTHAL.

Bulled Sonthal was charged with having enticed away Joorgoo Sonthal, a boy about nine or ten years of age, from the house of his father, the boy taking with him a pair of his father's bullocks. The boy having been last seen with the prisoner, suspicion fell on him. The Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Cosserat, proceeded to hold local enquiry. Prisoner, when arrested, at first denied all knowledge about the boy, but admitted he had, at the father's request, sold the pair of bullocks to one Sunmon Gowalla of Nudhoobun. He afterwards admitted having murdered the boy and buried the corpse in a heap of straw; the heap of straw was examined, but no trace of the corpse could be found. A few days afterwards, a small-sized skull, also some bones, a small piece of cloth worn as a lungootee, and a brass balla or wrist ornament were found in a piece of jungle, about a mile from prisoner's house; the cloth and balla were recognized by the father and mother of the boy, leaving no doubt that the remains found were those of the boy Joorgoo. At the Sessions the prisoner denied the murder, and said two Ghatwals, naming them and himself, seduced the boy into taking away his father's cattle, that the cattle were sold to Sunmon Gowalla: he left the boy with the Ghatwals, and went next day and got Rs. 11 from the Gowalla Sunmon. Prisoner was unable to prove his defence; in fact, it was distinctly proved that he alone was with the boy when he sold the cattle. His bringing in the two Ghatwals was doubtless an after-thought in the hope of screening himself. The case being clearly proved against the prisoner, he was sentenced to transportation for life.

QUEEN *versus* BHOLA KOOMHAR AND THREE OTHERS.

Bhola Koomhar was charged with the murder of his wife, Mussamut Boondhia, under Section 302, and the remaining three prisoners, Kheswao, Bhyroo, and Soophal, Koomhars, with making away with the body of deceased with the intention of screening the murder from legal punishment under Section 201. The deceased was first reported to the Assistant Commissioner as being missing from her home. Local enquiry was held; and after several days' search, a human skull and some bones were found in a jungle about six miles from deceased's house. Some ornaments found with the bones were identified as having been those worn by deceased at the time of her disappearance. Some witnesses deposed to having seen the body of a woman in the Hurun Nuddee, and others that they had afterwards seen some Bhuddrie* Koomhars carrying away the body of a woman slung on a pole from the direction of the Hurun Nuddee. Proceedings were then taken against the prisoners, and one Loleet

* Prisoner's village.

Koomhar, brother of the principal accused Bhola, was allowed to turn approver by the District Officer, and he stated before that Officer that deceased had died of blows received from her husband Bhola, because she refused to rub oil on his person; that Bhola had afterwards caused the body to be tied to a pole and thrown into the Hurun Nuddee. Mussamut Gowree, wife of Loleet Koomhar, also deposed to the same effect. Both these witnesses, however, retracted their statements before the Sessions Court, and the remaining evidence being weak and insufficient for a conviction, the prisoners were discharged. Mussamut Gowree was, under direction from the Deputy Commissioner, committed for giving false evidence, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment, her near relationship to the principal accused Bhola having been taken into consideration.

Queen *versus* Goohia and Premnia Passees.

Two prisoners, Goohia Passee and his son Premnia Passee, were charged with the culpable homicide not amounting to murder of an infant about two or three years of age. The prisoner Goohia accompanied by his son Premnia, about 17 years of age, and two younger children, one a boy about five and the other a girl between two to three, went into the town of Deoghur to beg. Having got a small quantity of uncooked rice, the party were returning homewards when the father began to eat some of the rice. His infant daughter asked for some, and, being refused by the father, began to cry and importune the more for food (this was during the crisis of the late famine at Deoghur). The father Goohia became annoyed, and being a cripple, always walking with a lattee, he gave the child a violent poke with such lattee, causing her to fall down an embankment on which they then were, about six feet high; the child not moving, the father directed his son Premnia to throw the child into the water, which he did; the child was in a very weak and emaciated state at the time for want of food, having lost its mother a few months previous from cholera. The father and his two sons then went their way. It was impossible to determine whether the child died from the effects of the poke of stick, from the fall down the bank, or from immersion in the water, as the body, when discovered, was found to be in such an advanced state of decomposition that Dr. Chundra, to whom the body had been sent, was unable to hold a *post mortem* examination. The prisoner Goohia confessed before the Committing Officer that he gave his infant daughter a poke with his lattee when on the Jolsur Bund, because she importuned him for food; that the child fell down the embankment, and, thinking that the child was dead, he directed his son Premnia to throw the body into the water, which he did. The prisoner Premnia made a similar confession, and admitted having thrown the body into the water by his father's order. The father Goohia was sentenced, under Section 304, to five years' rigorous imprisonment, and the son Premnia under Section 201 to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

Queen *versus* Mya, Sonthaline.

Mya, Sonthaline, was charged with the murder, by poisoning, of Monee, Sonthaline, during the Falgoon Purrub in March 1866. There was no direct evidence that prisoner administered poison to deceased, and no proof adducible that deceased had really died of poison, as her body was the following day burnt, and all traces of the murder, if it was murder, destroyed. There being no evidence against the prisoner she was discharged.

Queen *versus* Solma, Sonthaline.

The prisoner, Solma, Sonthaline, was charged with the murder, by poison, of her co-wife Keaphona, Sonthaline. The prisoner and deceased were the wives of one Soorjee Sonthal. The deceased after eating her dinner fell ill, was purged, and vomitted, and died during the night. Immediately after deceased's death, the prisoner, in the presence of several persons, admitted that she had given poison to deceased, because the deceased had, on several occasions,

endeavored to administer such poison to herself (prisoner). She confessed before the Assistant Commissioner that she had given deceased poison, because deceased had endeavored to poison her, and at the Sessions prisoner also admitted that she had given deceased a powder, which the latter had, on four occasions, endeavored to administer to her in her food and water. She suspected her co-wife of an intention to injure or poison her, and had on each occasion avoided touching the tainted food. On the last occasion she saw where deceased kept such powder, and watching her opportunity secured it, and then determined to serve her co-wife as the latter had attempted to serve her; that same night she cooked the family meal, and, before giving deceased her portion, mixed into it the whole of the powder left. Deceased ate her portion, and was immediately seized with agonizing pains in her stomach, was purged, vomitted much, and died about midnight. The prisoner, in her confession before the Sessions, said—"I did not know what the powder really was, whether poison or not; whatever it was, she tried to give it me, and I in return gave it her." Prisoner was convicted of the culpable homicide with intent to cause the death of deceased, and was sentenced to transportation for life. Against such order prisoner appealed to the Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, who—being of opinion that, as the prisoner's confession was the only evidence against her, it should be taken in all its entirety, and as she therein stated that she was not aware what the powder she had given deceased really was, whether poison or not, and that she had done what deceased intended doing to her—sent the proceeding to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, with the recommendation that the sentence be commuted to ten years' transportation, to which recommendation His Honor was pleased to accord his sanction. *Vide* Government of Bengal Order No. 5992, of the 29th December 1866.

QUEEN *versus* JEETON RAJWAR.

Jeeton Rajwar was charged with having murdered his two wives, his mother, and his son. On the 5th September last, a quarrel took place between his two wives. On his interfering, he was beaten by them before his mother; indignant at this, he determined to kill the whole family and himself. With a tangee he cut down his eldest wife, then his mother and child. He followed his younger wife into the jungle and killed her also; he stripped the woman of her saree, and attempted to hang himself, the cloth by which he was suspended breaking. He was arrested and taken to the Deoghur Hospital, being severely injured by falling from a height of 20 feet. After recovery he was sent to Hajut where he afterwards hanged himself, this time successfully, with a rope, to which was attached a bag of charcoal, of which there were two or three inside the Hajut placed there for sanitary purposes. Removing the bag of charcoal, and making a noose of the end of the rope, he swung himself off the *machan* on which prisoner slept, and was quite dead when found suspended.

QUEEN *versus* SIBBIA GOWALLINE, AND ANOTHER.

The prisoners were charged with causing the death of Mussamut Doohuree, a girl about 10 or 12 years of age, wife of the 2nd prisoner, and with afterwards concealing the body by throwing it into a flooded stream with the intention of causing traces of the murder to disappear. The prisoner Setra Gowalla and the chowkeedar of the village reported to the Assistant Commissioner of Godda that the deceased had been missing three days from her house, and no traces of her could be found. The Assistant Commissioner proceeded to the spot, and found, on enquiry, that there had been a dispute between prisoner No. 1 and deceased one night, and that the deceased was heard to call out *bapré bap*. Same night prisoner No. 1 and one Mussamut Puttia were seen to carry a corpse from their house, and proceed in the direction of a stream near the village, and afterwards return empty hand. Mussamut Puttia was allowed to turn approver, and stated the deceased contaminated the evening meal of the family, which exasperated her husband Setra Gowalla; that he struck her with clenched fist

and kicked her, when falling the deceased became insensible, and shortly after died, on which Setra induced Sibbia and herself, both being his aunts, to carry away the corpse and throw it into the stream ; they did so, and there being a fresh streamfall from the hills, the body was speedily carried away. The approver's statement as to Setra Gowalla having struck deceased is not corroborated in any way ; in fact it was shown that Sibbia, and not Setra, assaulted the deceased. The prisoner Sibbia was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced, under all the circumstances of the case, to three years' imprisonment; and the prisoner Setra—although not concerned in the death of his wife, admitting he had given a false report of his wife being missing to the Assistant Commissioner, when he knew she had met her death at the female prisoner's hands, and also was aware that the deceased's corpse had been made away with by the two women Sibbia and Puttia—was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

QUEEN *versus* RAMDHON ROY AND THREE OTHERS.

The deceased Hureel Ghose was sent by his master Pareshram Pauray to fetch some rice from an adjoining village, intending to sell the same at the Daoodpoor Haut, (this was the month of June 1866, when people were much pressed for food) ; deceased not returning search was made for him without success. A few days afterwards a clue was said to have been given by one of the accused as to where the body was, and search being made, a skull and some bones were found in a tank in the middle of a large plain, and near the Railway old cart road the banghee on which deceased was carrying a load of rice. From the evidence given before the Committing Officer by the female relatives of the four male prisoners, it was proved that the four prisoners, hearing that the deceased had gone to fetch rice, waylaid him on his return towards evening with a load of rice, and killed him as he was crossing a nullah, and afterwards threw the body into the tank where the remains were found, and hid the bamboo banghee in some jungle near the scene of murder. This information the women doubtless obtained from the prisoners ; but as they retracted such statements at the Sessions Court, saying that statements had been extorted from them by the Police, and as no other evidence was forthcoming against the prisoners, they were discharged.

QUEEN *versus* PRAN AND BOODHOO BHOOYANS.

The prisoners were charged with the murder of one Banara Paharia, and afterwards disposing of the corpse so as to cause evidence of the murder to disappear, Sections 302 and 201. The deceased was a pensioned Naik of the late Bhaugulpore Hill Ranger Regiment. He went in Assin last to Monghyr for his pension ; he sent a friend, who was with him on his return on ahead with a message to his wife to meet him at Mahagamma, as he wanted her to assist him in carrying home some household necessaries which he intended buying the next day at the Mahagamma Haut. The wife went to the Haut, but could hear nothing of her husband. After searching for him some days without success, she reported her husband's absence to the Hill Sirdar, and afterwards to the Assistant Commissioner. Enquiry and search being made some human bones and a skull were found near the edge of a piece of water about half a mile from Mahagamma village, also a dhootie covered with mud ; the water being drained off, some more bones were found, also a large piece of rock with a piece of rope attached to it, leaving no doubt that such piece of rock had been made use of to sink the corpse when it was first thrown into the water. The dhootie was clearly proved to have belonged to the deceased, his wife bringing into Court the remainder of the piece of cloth from which deceased had torn off the dhootie which he wore when he left home to go to Monghyr. It was proved that deceased had put up at the house of the prisoner Pran the night he arrived at Mahagamma ; and although there was no evidence as to who murdered the deceased, there was ample proof that the two prisoners removed in the middle of the same night a dead body slung on the shaft of a plough from their house. For want of evidence the prisoners were acquitted of the charge of murder, but convicted of having made away

with and concealed the corpse of the deceased Banara Paharia, and thereby caused disappearance of the commission of murder, under Section 201 of the Indian Penal Code, and sentenced them to seven years' transportation, against which sentence an appeal was made to the Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, who confirmed the order of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs.

QUEEN *versus* KUTWAROO AND THREE OTHERS.

Charged with the murder of one Sheik Jinghoo.

The only direct evidence against the prisoners was that of Mussamutt Junnia, the wife of the deceased, Jinghoo Sheik. She stated that towards dawn she was aroused from sleep by finding some one had hold of her throat and keeping her down by sitting on her chest. She managed, however, to see that her husband was being murdered, one man had hold of his legs, whilst two others struck him with an axe, the other with a knife ; she got free from the man who had hold of her, and went to her husband's rescue. She seized hold of one of the assailants, and, in doing so, her saree got stained with blood ; the man threw her off, and all four then decamped, leaving an axe and knife near her husband's charpoy. She had been sleeping inside the house, whilst her husband slept on a charpoy just outside the door. She recognized the four prisoners Indramon Bhokut, Dindyal, Balok, and Kotwarroo ; the first-named was the one who had seized her throat, the second and third as those who struck her husband, and the fourth had hold of her husband's legs. She further stated, she had no light inside her house ; there was no moon, the night a starry one, but sufficiently light to enable her to recognize the four prisoners. Her cloth saree, when examined at the Sessions, was very much stained *with drops of blood*, and not *smudged* with blood marks, as it must have been had her story been true, that such stains were caused by her seizing hold of one of her husband's assailants. The deceased was said to be addicted to drinking, and to have been drunk the night of the murder. The evidence of this witness was most unsatisfactory and unreliable, and it being the only testimony against the prisoners, they were acquitted and discharged. There was little doubt that this witness had an intrigue with the prisoner Kutwarroo, and it is more than probable that she and Kutwarroo murdered the deceased on the latter discovering that she and Kutwarroo were having illicit intercourse the night of the murder. There was, however, no evidence forthcoming that such was really the case, so no proceeding could be taken against them.

QUEEN *versus* KISTO MUNDLE AND FOUR OTHERS.

Charge—Murder and Abetment of Murder.

The body of the deceased Punchoo Deeheedar was found early one morning in a *dhan khet* outside the village, the head and body immersed in water, but the feet not so. Enquiry disclosed the fact that the deceased had, for some time previous, an improper intimacy with the female prisoner Rebuttee Bewa, and that bad feelings existed between them in consequence of Rebuttee also carrying on an intrigue with the prisoner Kisto Mundle. As deceased's intimacy with Rebuttee was well known in the village, she was suspected to have been concerned in the murder of deceased, the more so as she had been seen to be busy *keeping* her house inside and out at early dawn that morning, a most unusual thing for her to do. She was questioned by the mundle or headman of the village, when she admitted that the deceased had been murdered the previous night in her house by the prisoners Kisto Mundle and Chubbee Sircar. She made a somewhat similar statement before the Committing Officer. Rebuttee's brother, Bunessur Mundle, confessed to his having been present at the murder of deceased, saying he had been forced into going by Kisto Mundle ; that Kisto Mundle, Chubbee Sircar, and himself lay in wait, knowing from Rebuttee the deceased would come that night to her house. Deceased came shortly afterwards, when Kisto and Chubbee sprung upon him, the former seized hold of deceased's throat, held it down on the head rail of charpoy sitting on deceased's chest, whilst doing so Chubbee had hold of deceased's

legs till life became extinct; he then assisted the two prisoners in removing the body and place it where found the next morning, at the other end of the village, in order to throw suspicion on the villagers resident near such spot, as deceased was known to be a most immoral man, and to have also intrigues with women there. The prisoner Sursuttee Dassee, mother of Rebuttee and Bunessur, confessed before the Committing Officer that Kisto Mundle had come to her house the previous night with Chubbee Sircar, and induced by threats her son Bunessur to accompany and assist them in their intended murder of deceased at her daughter Rebuttee's house. She herself followed shortly after, and, on arrival at her daughter's house, found that deceased had been murdered, and saw Kisto, Chubbee and Bunessur, removing the corpse from Rebuttee's house. These fouzdaree confessions of all three prisoners were duly attested by the subscribing witnesses. They, however, retracted their confessions at the trial before the Sessions Court, urging that they had been coerced into making same by the Police, the usual plea in cases when confessions are retracted at the Sessions. Kisto Mundle and Chubbee denied all participation in the murder of deceased both before the Assistant Commissioner and the Sessions Court. The prisoners Kisto, Chubbee and Bunessur were convicted of the murder of Panchoo Deeheedar, and sentenced capitally by the Deputy Commissioner; and the two female prisoners Rebuttee and Sursuttee sentenced, the former to transportation for life, for having aided and abetted in above murder, and the latter to five years' rigorous imprisonment, for having voluntarily concealed the intention of a design to commit above murder. Proceedings were forwarded to the High Court for confirmation of sentence of those sentenced capitally. The High Court (present, Messrs. Kemp and Markby) discrediting the evidence for the prosecution, directed the release of all the prisoners:

QUEEN *versus* KURRAN AND SIX OTHER SONTHALS.

The prisoner Kurran Sonthal and six other Sonthals were charged with having caused the death of deceased whilst found stealing. During the height of the late season of scarcity in Bhadro last year, deceased and another man went with the intention of stealing Indian corn from a neighbouring village, where the crop was earlier than their own. They had broken off a few coles, when the people watching the crop hearing them, gave chase, the deceased was caught, and severely beaten with sticks (not lattees but sticks used by Sonthals in goading their buffaloes and cattle when ploughing.) The deceased was so severely beaten, that thinking he might die where he was, his assailants took and carried him off to a clump of jungle about half a mile off, and there left him nearly dead. No intimation of deceased being missed was given to the Assistant Commissioner till November, when the man who had gone with deceased to steal Indian corn gave information of deceased's death, and how it occurred. Enquiry was made, and all seven prisoners clearly proved guilty; they also confessed to having beaten deceased so severely that he died, urging in extenuation that constant depredations had been made by thieves on their crop of Indian corn, which was their all to them in that season of scarcity. They were always obliged to watch the cultivation day and night, and as they had caught deceased in the act of robbing them, they considered they were justified in making an example of him. Prisoners were sentenced by the Deputy Commissioner to two years' rigorous imprisonment; they afterwards appealed, but the sentence was upheld by the Commissioner.

QUEEN *versus* NUNKOO BHOKUT AND FIVE OTHERS.

The deceased Persaud Tailee, on the evening of the 25th November last, having found a pony trespassing in his crops, and, knowing its owner, was driving the animal to the owner, Nunkoo Bhokut's house, intending to make the pony over to him in the presence of witnesses, when nearing Nunkoo's house Nunkoo and other five prisoners set on him, and endeavored to take the pony from him. Deceased resisted, but being an old man was soon overpowered, cuffed, and thrown on the ground, and whilst on the ground kicked. Which of the prisoners kicked deceased the witnesses for the prosecution could not exactly say, as the prisoners had

surrounded deceased, and it was too dark to see what each individual prisoner did to deceased. Deceased having been rescued by certain witnesses, then left the spot, he appeared to be doubled up with pain, and with difficulty reached his house which was not far from the prisoner Nunkoo's. On arrival there he was unable to speak: he presently afterwards, whilst sitting down, fell back apparently in a faint; he, however, never afterwards rallied nor spoke, and died same night. A *post mortem* examination of the body showed that deceased had died of rupture of the spleen. There were no outward marks of violence on the body, which there would have been had the pony kicked deceased in the scuffle as urged by the prisoners; the four ribs on the right side were also fractured causing congestion of the liver; there were also congested symptoms on the left side up to shoulder blade, showing that deceased had been severely beaten and ill-treated. The case having been clearly proved against all the prisoners, they were sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

12TH CLASS.—*Offences against Property.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PRECEDING YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Dacoity, with murder	...	...	1	3½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Ditto, with attempt to cause death or grievous hurt...	2	27	⅝	9½	...	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	7	...	...	...
3 Ditto, other cases	21	222	13	103	4	100	104	...	...	40	...	..	...	...	14	35	6	...	3	1	...	5
4 Robbery, with hurt	...	...	⅓	⅓	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Ditto, other cases	7	9	13⅓	28⅓	...	2	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
6 Theft, with aggravating circumstances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Ditto, other cases	1392	2029	997⅝	1261	*12	1480	1492	1	...	...	710	428	...	...	...	176	133	37	7	...	...	...
8 Ditto, Attempts	...	...	4⅓	5⅓	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Extortion, with aggravating circumstances	...	...	⅝	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Ditto, other cases	60	99	27⅓	43	..	85	85	...	...	...	20	1	...	...	1	52	4	...	7	...	...	...
11 Criminal breach of trust	20	22	14	18⅝	...	18	18	...	...	1	3	1	...	.	...	12	...	...	1	...	...	...
12 Receiving, or habitually dealing in stolen property	68	144	63⅜	126	...	136	136	...	...	...	72	26	...	...	...	30	8	...	...	...	...	...
13 Mischief, with aggravating circumstances	7	13	5	6	...	13	13	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Ditto, other cases	102	182	124⅝	193	*28	152	180	...	...	...	41	39	.	...	...	45	54	...	1	..	...	...
15 Criminal Trespass, resulting in death or grievous hurt	...	...	⅛	⅛	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16 Ditto, for commission of serious offences	322	432	240	322½	...	177	177	...	...	1	150	3	...	...	...	12	8	...	3	...	...	...
17 Ditto, other cases	249	455	269⅜	382⅜	* 1	396	397	..	...	...	110	64	...	...	...	69	116	21	17	...	...	...
18 Attempt at house-breaking ...	31	45	30	48½	...	63	63	...	...	...	53	1	...	...	...	9	...	...	..	...	...	...
19 Fraudulent deeds and disposition of property	...	...	⅛	⅛	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Criminal misappropriation of property	47	73	36⅜	52½	...	72	72	...	...	..	19	20	...	...	...	10	13	...	10	...	...	...
21 Cheating	54	81	48⅓	56⅜	.	63	63	...	...	...	22	1	...	...	...	27	13	...	...	..	...	...
Total ...	2376	3833	1891⅓	2661⅓	45	2768	2813	1	..	42	1211	584	...	...	17	481	357	58	56	1	...	5

* In last year's statement 11 persons were shown pending under head No. 7; 27 under head No. 14; and 3 under head 17. Of these latter 3, one appertained to head No. 7, one to head No. 14, and one only to head No. 17. One person shown as pending at close of 1865, under head No. 20, was found to appertain more properly under head No. 23 of Class 11, where such person has been accounted for.—*Vide* remmarks in Class 11.

The result of trials on the whole is very good. The arrests not so.

The following shows the percentage of plundered property recovered :—

1	2	3	4		5	
CRIME.	Value of property plundered in all cases reported as given in by prosecutors.	Value of property recovered.	Percentage of recovery on total Loss.		Percentage of recovery in cases where the offenders were arrested.	
			1866.	Three previous years	1866.	Three previous years
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs A P.
Dacoity ...	3,599 9 3	649 5 0	18 0 7	2 7 4	25 11 10	4 11 9
Robbery ...	1,556 7 0	.....	.....	10 12 8	.....	21 6 4
House trespass with intent to commit theft ..	11,363 4 1	1,564 10 1	13 12 2	5 1 10	29 5 0	16 15 0
Theft ...	12,242 12 4	2,809 11 11	23 1 0	23 4 8	46 9 10	41 13 7

Not good, although improving.

Of the cases of Class 12 Table the following deserve notice :—

QUEEN *versus* JHUGGUR BIND AND SIX OTHERS.

Prisoners were charged, first, with having committed a dacoity in the house of one Poorun Mundul of Gowra, in the Godda Division, on the 18th January 1866; and, second, having in their possession property obtained by dacoity, well knowing same to have been so obtained. This dacoity was committed by a band of 15 or 16 Up-country men, and property valued at Rs. 1,415-11-0 alleged to have been plundered. None of the decoits were recognized, and no trace of them or the plundered property could be found till the Assistant Commissioner of Godda (Mr. E G. Man) received intimation that a number of men have been arrested on the night of the 19th January 1867 by the Buxar Police, with a considerable quantity of suspected stolen property with them. Mr. Man sent up Poorun Mundul to Buxar to identify, if he could, any of the property seized by the Police. He recognized most of the articles, and proved, to the satisfaction of the Magistrate of Buxar, that they were his. After some correspondence the High Court ruled that, as the dacoity in which the recovered property had been plundered was committed in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the accused must be transferred from Buxar to the Sonthal Pergunnahs to be there tried. The accused, excepting Joykarron Gowallah, were well known budmashes, and the Police having received intimation that they had left their homes to commit dacoities in Bengal, they awaited the return of the budmashes by rail. Jhuggur Bind and seven men in his company were all arrested at the Doomraon Railway Station, and, on being searched, a bundle was found fastened round Jhuggur Bind's person, which, on being opened, was found to contain a large quantity of silver ornaments, and in his waistband Rs. 97-8 in cash. With his brother Bechoo Bind were found some brass vessels and some clothes, all belonging to the prosecutor,

Poorun Mundul; nothing was found with the other prisoners belonging to Poorun Mundul. Bechoo Bind was not sent down, as he had, before his capture in this case, been implicated in some dacoities Up-country, and sentenced subsequently to transportation by the Judge of Patna. There being no evidence to prove that those arrested with Jhuggur and Bechoo Bind belong to their gang, and there being nothing against them beyond the fact that they all came up in the same compartment of Railway Carriage, and got out at the same station, they were discharged. Although there was no proof against Jhuggur Bind that he was with those who committed the dacoity at Poorun Mundul's house, the fact of his having been arrested with the plundered property on his person was clearly established against him, and as he was a man of notorious bad character, and had been imprisoned once before for felony, he was sentenced to ten years' transportation, which sentence was afterwards confirmed on appeal before the Commissioner, and subsequently by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *vide* Government Order No. 584 of the 24th January last.

QUEEN *versus* POORUN POOJHUR AND SIX OTHERS.

Prisoners were charged with dacoity attended with grievous hurt. In October last a dacoity was committed in the house of Dulloo Mahato of Nowadhee. He and his male relatives were sleeping in one house, and his two wives and children in another in the same courtyard. The dacoits first entered the house where the women were; they slapped and cuffed them, and then stripped them stark naked, and by threats and beating extorted from the elder wife her small hoard of money. The dacoits demanded more, but the woman told them she knew not where her husband kept his money, and desired to be taken to him, and she would endeavour to induce him to give all he had. Both the women and this were taken to Dulloo's house, and Dulloo called upon to give up his money; he denied having any, and was at once tied and secured as also his father; his nephew Moodoo, pretending that he was already tied, kept his arms behind his back. Dacoits, not succeeding in geting money out of Dulloo, then made a fire inside his house in his choola and seizing hold of the elder wife held her by her arms and feet over it till she was severely burnt; the younger wife escaped such torture by pleading that she was the younger wife, and knew nothing of her husband's monetary affairs. The dacoits, seeing that the elder wife really did not know where her husband kept his money, then laid hold of Dulloo, and drew him backwards and forwards over the fire till he agreed to tell where he kept his money. He was taken to the place where he said it was secreted, and pointing out the spot, the dacoits dug up his hoard, and decamped with it, also some household goods and clothes. The next day the case was taken in hand by the Police, the Assistant Commissioner Mr. Wilmot; and the Ghatwalline's servants, one of the latter having learnt that several men had been at Mussamut Seetia Paoghoria's house (about a mile from Nowadhee) the night of the dacoity, questioned her. She admitted that her relative Bhyroo, and the prisoners Poorna, Dewannee, Neemaun, Deep Chand, and four other men had been at her house that night. Poorna was arrested, and, when accused of the dacoity and told by his own father not to lie, he confessed fully and implicated the other prisoners and gave up property, saying some of it was his share, and some Bhyroo's; this property was recognized as Dulloo's. In the meanwhile, Dulloo and his wife who had been burnt were sent in to Deoghur. Dulloo died just before reaching Deoghur; the wife, though much burnt, recovered. The guilt of the prisoners was clearly brought home to them as they were distinctly recognized by Dulloo's two wives and his nephew by the light of the fire and the torches prisoners had with them; they were a long while torturing the elder wife and Dulloo, so there is no reason to think any mistake could have been made as to identification. The deceased

Dulloo was an elderly man and in delicate health when tortured by the prisoners ; otherwise it was possible he might have recovered. The prisoners, seven in number, were sentenced to ten years' transportation, which sentence was afterwards confirmed on appeal.

QUEEN *versus* GOOROO ROY AND NINE OTHERS.

This dacoity was committed at the house of an elderly Sonthal woman Mussamut Soomnee by a gang of dacoits who had settled themselves in the Domunikoh, and were the terror of the country. The old woman had her arms tied behind her back, stripped naked and severely beaten by the dacoits with lattees ; they glutted the house taking anything worth having away with them. She recognized one of the dacoits Gooroo Roy, who lived about a mile from her house. Gooroo Roy was searched for, but could not be found ; his house, however, was searched, and some grain similar to that plundered from Soomnee's house found therein. Having learnt from Gooroo Roy's brother that two noted Budmashes had been to Gooroo's house the night of the dacoity, and that he had left with them that night, these men were next looked up, but were not at home, and nothing belonging to Soomnee found in their houses. These two men Karoo Roy and Gonohurry Roy were afterwards found along with Seemmon Roy, Mundel Roy, and Bhunjun Sao ; the last named, when questioned, admitted he knew where some of the old woman's things were. He took the Mundel and others to Byjoo Roy's house, where several articles were found, and recognized by prosecutor's son. Bhunjun Sao then said other articles were with Omrao Singh ; on nearing the house of the latter, he ran off, and, for the time, escaped. Several articles belonging to prosecutor were then found in Omrao Sing's house. Bhunjun Sao now gave up some articles, as also did Mundel Roy and Karoo Roy. Omrao Sing was afterwards arrested, and a silver ornament, pair to the one found in his house, found secreted in his cloth. Two of the accused were discharged as not guilty, but the remaining eight were found guilty on very clear evidence, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

QUEEEN *versus* CHEKKON SING AND 18 OTHERS.

Four dacoities were committed in the Deoghur and Doomka Division during February and March 1866 by two regular gangs of dacoits ; one of the dacoits having been apprehended turned approver, and named the rest of his gang, several of whom were afterwards arrested ; some of these implicated others of the 2nd gang ; several of both gangs confessed and gave up the plundered property they had obtained as their respective shares. Satisfactory proof having been adduced against 13 of the accused, seven of them were sentenced to ten years', and six to seven years', transportation ; the remaining six were discharged. Since the breaking up of these gangs, dacoities are of rare occurrence in the Deoghur and Doomka Divisions. Mr. Assistant Commissioner Cosserat is deserving of much commendation for the energetic manner in which he traced out and followed up the prisoners, and the plundered property, arresting one of the prisoners himself with plundered property on his person ; but for Mr. Cosserat these gangs might have been still at large, and continued their depredations with impunity.

Beyond the cases remarked on there were no dacoties committed in the Sonthal Pergunnahs during 1866 deserving any special mention.

13TH CLASS.—*Offences relating to Documents and to Trade or Property Marks.*

1	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Forgery, or uttering, or possessing forged documents or papers, &c.	...	...	2	3½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	.	...	...	..
2 Fraudulent Execution of Deed ...	1	3	...	...	...	3	3	..	...	.	...	...	..	...	...	3	...	...	...	..	...	...
Total ...	1	3	2	3½	..	3	3	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	..	...	...

14TH CLASS.—*Criminal Breach of Contract of Service.*

1	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Criminal breach of contract of service	4	4	1	5	1	4	5	..	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...

15TH CLASS.—*Offences relating to Marriage.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped	Transferred.
1 Offences relating to marriage ...	6	8	16½	22⅔	2	5	7	...	...	...	1	...	..	..	..	6	...	...	...	...	...	..

16TH CLASS.—*Defamation.*

1	2		3		4			5					6						7	8	9	10
DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.									
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1 Defamation	69	113	54	75	4	82	86	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	49	2	...	...	...	...	...

17TH CLASS.—*Criminal Intimidation, Insult, or Annoyance.*

1	DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
		1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
		Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.
1	Criminal intimidation, insult or annoyance, resulting in death or other grievous hurt	...	...	1½	1½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ditto, other cases	59	84	76	100½	1	69	70	...	...	...	27	8	...	...	...	24	9	...	2	...	...	...
	Total ...	59	84	77½	102	1	69	70	...	...	..	27	8	..	...	...	24	9	...	2	..	...	...

Convictions not good.

18TH CLASS.—*Miscellaneous Offences.*

1	DETAIL OF OFFENCES.	2		3		4			5					6					7	8	9	10
		1866.		AVERAGE OF THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.		NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER TRIAL.			CONVICTED.					ACQUITTED, DISCHARGED, OR RELEASED ON BAIL.								
		Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Pending on 1st January 1866.	Arrested during the year.	Total.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	High Court.	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Sub-Assistant Commissioner.	Police.	Pending on 31st December 1866.	Died	Escaped.	Transferred.
1	Breach of Act XXI of 1865 ...	66	117	62½	92½	1	112	113	...	...	...	89	10	...	...	..	13	1	..	.	...	..	...
2	Breach of Act III of 1857 ...	48	82	60½	92½	...	74	74	...	.	...	28	6	...	..	.	24	14	..	2	...	...	...
3	Maintenance, Section 316 ...	38	38	38½	46½	...	35	35	...	..	..	14	...	...	..	.	21	...	..	.	.	...	..
4	Breach of Act III of 1863 ...	...	...	9½	14½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	.	...	...	..	...	...	...	..
5	Breach of Act X of 1862 ..	1	1	1½	1½	...	1	1	...	..	..	1	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...
6	Breach of Act V of 1861 ...	10	11	7½	15½	...	11	11	...	...	...	6	1	..	...	...	4	..	..	...	...	.	...
7	Dispossession	9	17	19½	24½	...	11	11	.	...	.	5	...	..	...	...	4	1	..	1	..	..	..
8	Breach of Act XVIII of 1854 ...	51	63	81½	51½	1	63	64	..	...	...	49	4	..	...	.	6	5	...	.	..	...	...
	Total ...	223	329	229½	339½	2	307	309	...	...	...	192	21	..	...	...	72	21	.	3	...	...	...

In ten cases during 1866, security for good behaviour was called for.

The total number of persons arrested by the Police and Village authorities and brought into the Sudder Station on their own authority was 2,100, and 2,762 were sent in by order of the Assistant Commissioner. Of the former 1,526 were convicted; 39 committed; 524 acquited; two died, none transferred, and nine pending. Of the latter, 1,460 were convicted; 66 committed; 1,144 acquitted, five transferred, and 87 pending.

The following Table shows the number of Village Officers punished during the year 1866 :—

A.—DISMISSAL (DEPRIVATION.)

RANK.	NUMBER.	OFFENCES.	DEOGHUR.	DOOMKA.	GODDA.	PAKOUR.	RAJMEHAL.
Deshe Munduls	1	Theft ...	...	1	...	...	...
Sonthal Manjhees	1	Neglect of duty ...	...	...	1	...	...
Sonthal Purgunites	2	Ditto ...	...	...	2	...	...
Pahariah Manjhee	1	Theft ..	...	...	...	...	1
Constable	1	Exercising illegal power	...	1	...	...	...
Chowkeedars	55	Neglect of duty ...	37	3	8	5	2
Ditto	15	Giving false evidence, &c.	14	1	...	...	...
Ditto	2	Not reporting crime ...	2	...	...	...	...
Ditto	62	Absconding ...	62	...	...	...	...
Ditto	11	Theft ...	3	1	...	...	7
Total ...	151	.....	118	7	11	5	10

—SUSPENSIONS.

	NUMBER.	OFFENCES.	DEOGHUR.	DOOMKA.	GODDA.	PAKOUR.	RAJMEHAL.
Pahariah Sirdar	1	Remissness in duty ...	...	...	...	...	1
Pahariah Manjhees	3	Illicit distillation ...	...	...	3	...	...
Village Chowkeedars	1	Neglect of duty ...	...	...	1	...	...
Ditto	3	Not reporting crime ...	3	...	...	...	...
Total ...	8	.....	3	...	4	...	1

C.—FINES.

RANK.	NUMBER.	NUMBER OF TIMES FINED.	AMOUNT.	DEOGHUR.	DOOMKA.	GODDA.	PAKOUR.	RAJMEHAL.
Sonthal Purgunites... ...	3	Once ..	45 0 0	...	1	2	...	...
Manjhees	8	Ditto ...	45 0 0	...	...	...	5	3
Pahariah Sirdars	2	Ditto ...	35 0 0	...	...	1	...	1
Naib	2	Ditto ...	6 0 0	...	...	2	...	...
Manjhees	2	Ditto ...	3 0 0	...	...	2	...	...
Village Chowkeedars ...	97	Ditto ...	82 8 0	29	3	58	4	3
Constables	1	Ditto ...	1 0 0	...	1	...	...	...
Munduls	35	Ditto ...	363 8 0	34	...	...	1	...
Total ...	150	.....	581 0 0	63	5	65	10	7

The following Table gives the number of accidental deaths reported in 1866 :—

	Drowned.	Bitten by snakes.	Burnt.	Killed by lightning.	Killed by wild beasts.	Killed by bite of wild beasts.	By falling from trees.	By falling from walls.	By fall from a house.	By Railway accident.	Killed by alligators.	From other causes.	Excess drinking.
Men	25	52	4	6	36	...	21	1	...	1	...	...	1
Women	18	44	...	6	26	1	5	1	...	...	...	...	...
Boys	34	9	5	1	31	...	4	1	...	...	1	...	...
Girls	21	6	3	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	98	111	12	13	122	1	30	3	...	1	1	...	1

Memo. of Wild Beasts destroyed and for which rewards have been paid in 1866 :—

Animals.	Number.	Deoghur.	Number.	Doomka.	Number.	Godda.	Number.	Pakour.	Number.	Rajmehal.	Total.
Tigers	9	.....	2	.....	1	.....	2	.....	3	.....	17
Leopards	26	.....	39	.....	6	.....	10	.....	5	.....	86
Hyenas	7	.....	14	.....	7	.....	1	.....	...	.....	29
Bears	37	.....	40	.....	4	.....	...	.....	...	.....	81
Wolves	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....
Wild Elephant ...	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	1	.....	1
Total ...	79	.....	95	.....	18	.....	13	.....	9	.....	214

Table I.

For the year 1866.

Divisions.	Number of charges taken up by Police and sent up in Form A.	Number of charges refused by Police as per Form B.	Number of charges reported false on enquiry by Police.	Average number of days occupied by Police enquiry.	Number of cases in Form B., in which further enquiry has been ordered by the Magistrate.	Number of cases in which proceedings have been instituted under Sections 182 and 211 of the Penal Code, either at the instance of the Magistrate, or complaint of parties aggrieved.	Remarks.
Sonthal Pergunnahs, (Deoghur) ..	410	39	74	37	4	9	Under Section 211. There being no regular Police in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, excepting in the Deoghur Sub-Division, this Table is blank in regard to the Rajmehal, Pakour, Godda, and Doomka Sub-Division, where Mundals and heads of villages perform Police duties in accordance to the Sonthal Rules and systems. Persons sent in by them are therefore incorporated in Table 2.
Doomka ..	Blank.						
Pakour ...							
Rajmehal ...							
Godda ...							

TABLE II.

For the year 1866.

SONTHAL PERGUNNAHS.	Number of cases before Magistrates and Subordinates under Chapter XV of Procedure Code.	Number of cases summarily dismissed without issue of summons.	Number of cases in which summons were issued on complaint.	NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS ATTENDING ON SUMMONS.		Number of cases in which award has been made under Section 270 of the Procedure Code.	REMARKS.
				Convicted.	Released.		
Dooghur	789	106	683	678	253	32	
Doomka	117	8	110	49	52	...	
Godda	183	...	183	199	37	3	
Pakour	173	4	169	138	110	6	
Rajmehal	243	23	220	135	54	2	
Total ...	1505	141	1365	1199	506	43	

No. 1.—CRIMINAL

Statement shewing the numb... by the Sonthal Officers and how disposed ... sioner for the year 1866.

...AKING ...ENTS.	Names of Divisions.	Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.	Number of persons pending at the close of the last year.	Total.	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Died in Jails.	Committed to the High Court.	Pending.	Total.	REMARKS.
Mr. Asst. Comr. Wilmot ...	Dooghur ...	10	28	.....	28	16	3	A 2	.....	B 7	28	A.—Of the two persons who died in Jail one committed suicide, the other died a natural death.
Mr. Asst. Comr. Cosserat ...	Doomka ...	7	47	.....	47	31	16	...	.....	...	47	B.—The Deputy Commissioner having been detained at Bhaugulpore to defend in an important Court of Ward's suit before the Principal Sudder Ameen was unable to hold his usual December Sessions. This accounts for so many pending at close of the last year. They were, however, all disposed of in January and February 1867, when of the 27 persons, 18 were convicted and 9 acquitted.
Mr. Asst. Comr. Man ...	Godda ...	2	5	1	6	5	...	...	.....	B 1	6	
Mr. Offg. Asst. Comr. MacEwen	Ditto ...	1	7	.....	7	1	6	...	.....	...	7	
Mr. Asst. Comr. Metcalfe ...	Ditto ...	6	19	.....	19	...	...	...	.....	B 19	19	
Mr. Offg. Asst. Comr. Sterndale ...	Pakour ...	2	1	1	2	2	...	...	.....	...	2	
Mr. Asst. Comr. G. Smith ...	Ditto ...	9	24	6	30	15	12	...	3	...	30	
Mr. Sub-Asst. Comr. MacEwen	Rajmehal...	4	4	.....	4	3	1	...	.....	...	4	
Mr. Asst. Comr. W. Smith ..	Ditto ...	6	7	.....	7	5	2	...	.....	...	7	
	Total ...	47	142	8	150	78	40	2	3	27	150	

No. 2.—CRIMINAL APPEAL.

Statement showing the number of Appeals preferred from the orders of the Assistant Commissioners to the Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, in Criminal Cases, and in Proceedings other than Criminal Trials during the year 1866, *with the orders passed thereon by the Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Appeals from Orders passed in Criminal Cases.								Appeals from Orders in Judicial Proceedings other than Criminal Trials.								
From the Orders of	Pending on 31st December 1865.	Pending during the year 1866.		Total.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Pending at close of 1866.	Pending on 31st December 1865.	Preferred during the year 1866.		Total.	Appeals rejected.	Orders confirmed.	Orders modified or reversed.	Pending on 31st December 1866.		Remarks.
		Appeals.	Cases called for.							Appeals.	Cases called for.							
Mr. C. W. Wilmot, Deoghur	..	16	3	16	8	7	1	..	..	4	1	4	3	..	1	..	..	
Mr. J. F. Blumhardt, Nullah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	
Mr. A. W. Cosserat, Doomka	..	4	3	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Mr. R. S. T. MacEwen, Godda	..	5	2	5	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Mr. E. G. Man, Ditto	..	5	4	5	1	3	1	..	..	2	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	
Mr. H. H. Metcalfe, Ditto	..	3	3	3	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Mr. G. C. M. Smith, Pakour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	
Mr. R. S. T. MacEwen, Rajmehal	..	3	1	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Mr. W. M. Smith, Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	2	..	1	..	..	
Total	..	36	21	36	15	15	5	1	..	11	5	11	6	3	2	..	..	

A.—The one person pending at close of last year appealed in December 1866, but proceedings did not reach Deputy Commissioner's office till January 1867.

* * * * * * * *

A. MONEY,
Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE ;
BHAUGULPORE,
The 28th September, 1867.

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